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ABSTRACT

The challenges faced by reference and collection development staff have become increasingly complex in recent years, as more and more materials--in a variety of formats--have become available. This book shows reference and collection development librarians how to use the Internet to share information through online conversations and online resources. Chapters 1 and 2 include a history of the Internet with a special emphasis on the Internet as a community, and an overview of the tools of the trade. Chapters 3-8 discuss how reference and collection librarians can use Internet fundamentals (e-mail, USENET newsgroups, Gopher, and the World Wide Web) and special resources (library catalogs, databases, electronic books, and Frequently Asked Questions files) to better serve their patrons. Appendices include: "The Virtual Vertical File," a selective compilation of Web sources, and "The List of Lists," a subject arrangement of booklists on the Internet. (Author/AEF)

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